



Dr. Elizabeth Cobbs, Chief of Geriatrics, Extended Care and Palliative Care  
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She wears many hats, she is an internist, geriatrician, a palliative care physician, a clinical educator and the Chief of Geriatrics and Extended Care at the Washington DC Veterans Affairs Medical Center. It takes a very special person to care for those who are approaching the end of their lives, and Dr. Elizabeth Cobbs has been doing it very well for more than 30 years. "My favorite thing about being a doctor is the inspiration I receive from my patients," said Dr. Cobbs.

She says she chose to go into geriatrics and palliative medicine because of the opportunities to promote person-centered healthcare at every stage of life. "It blends the best balance of treatments and care for each individual," she said. She adds that the VA's model of care is one of deep respect for the preferences of each individual and the resources available to support home and community-based care in addition to hospital-based care.

An expert in her field and well-respected by her peers, Washingtonian Magazine named her to its Top Doctor's list for 2014. The prestigious annual list is the result of asking area physicians who they would recommend for their own family members.

She is also the Medical Director of Residences at Thomas Circle and serves as Associate Editor of the Journal of the American Geriatrics Society. Dr. Cobbs is the Program Director for the Geriatric Medicine Fellowship and she also founded one of the area's first accredited Hospice and Palliative Medicine Fellowships. Dr. Cobbs also serves as co-principal investigator of the Washington DC Area Geriatric Education Center Consortium, integrating humanities into interdisciplinary health professions education. She is a Professor of Medicine at the George Washington University where she inspires the next generation of young doctors.